

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending. Claims 8, 30, and 32 are canceled.

Claims 1-7 and 16-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and/or 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Halperin, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,564,434). Claims 8-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 1, 25, and 29 are amended as independent claims that include the language of original claim 8. Independent claim 31 has been similarly amended. Therefore, withdrawal of the instant rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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